

From: Richard Paietta
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 10:57pm
Subject: The Settlement

Dear Sirs:

This suit should have never been undertaken in the first place. It was done by the previous administration for the benefit of Microsoft's competition. At no time was the public hurt or at issue in this case.

This action has cost the taxpayers millions of dollars for the benefit of a few (e.g. AOL, Sun, Etc). Not only has this cost the American taxpayer in dollars that could have been spent elsewhere it has cause the present downturn in our economy. DOJ was right in settling the issue and the remaining 9 states that are home to Microsoft's competition should be forced to settle. This was a case of bad law and the legal system showing its worst side. There is no excuse for the Federal Government having to act as the protector of Microsoft's competition. The law was put on the books for the protection of the public. The market place in a free economy determines who stays in business and who does not.

This suit has also cost many of us who have invested in Microsoft for their retirement. What do you intend to do to help, since this has cost many large sums of their retirement investments.

Settle the case and ask to judge to force a resolution with the hold out states. It is time that DOJ corrected the mistakes of the past administration.

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